



INTRO. Chapter 3- most densely packed sxn of the whole letter with this concept. This is where Paul wants to make a statement to us about POWER.

Eph 1.18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know, his incomparably great power for us who believe.

FOCUS: What is that power? Why do we need it?

Paul references this POWER three times in vss 14-21.

FIRST REFERENCE TO POWER: vs. 16.

- Through the Holy Spirit.
- PURPOSE: STRENGTHEN us
- In our inner being,
- So that Christ may dwell in your heart

THE SPIRITS POWER TO STRENGTHEN US

WHY do we need power for Christ to dwell within us?

Ephesians 2:1 Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. 2 You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil-the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.

You were spiritually dead- unable to trust Him, unable to know Him.
Your heart was under the power and rule of another spiritual being.

Paul is pulling back the curtain on the- "heavenly realm"- an unseen realm of- spiritual beings, spiritual powers, rulers, and authorities.

WHY? It takes DIVINE power to FREE us from those forces: SIN, SELF, SATAN

But when you accept Jesus as the authority and power of your life, He doesn't just give you power, he gives you HIMSELF.

Jesus comes to live inside you and you become ONE with GOD Himself.

Mystical Union- Col 1:27 "the glorious mystery Christ IN you

SECOND Use of POWER: vs. 18.

THE SPIRIT'S POWER: To enable us to GRASP and KNOW, Wide+Long+ High+ Deep is "the love of Christ".

But if we are already rooted & established in love, WHY Does Paul continue to pray for POWER to grasp and know this love?

1) vs. 19 this is a love that surpasses knowledge-- Inexhaustible.

- It is a love that is (Great Expositor-John Stott):
- So wide it embraces all mankind- jews, gentiles, every ethnic group.
- So long it lasts for eternity
- So deep it reaches us in our lowest moments
- So High it raises us up with Christ to heavenly realms in honor and glory.

2) End vs. 19 "that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

This is the deepest revelation the Spirit gives.

THE TRUE MEASURE OF A CHRISTIAN IS THEIR GROWTH IN LOVE.

THE FINAL OCCURRENCE of POWER: vs. 20.

- This is where it all comes together. *Read it over again.*
- HOW does God do His "immeasurably more"?
- "HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US."- WITHIN US!
- "ALL GENERATIONS"-> Will see the glory of God through US.

Hab 3:2 To the Eternal One. I have heard the reports about You, and I am in awe when I consider all You have done. O Eternal One, revive Your work in our lifetime; reveal it among us in our times..

THE SPIRITS POWER TO RELEASE REVIVAL THROUGH YOU.

Every generation needs its own revival.

REFLECT: Reflect on how God's love is being revealed to you.

It is a love that is (Great theologian-John Stott):
So wide it embraces all mankind- jews, gentiles, every ethnic group.
So long it lasts for eternity
So deep it reaches us in our lowest moments
So High it raises us up with Christ to heavenly realms in honor and glory.

(Q) Through what circumstance in your life is the Spirit revealing this great love to you?

(Q) Where do you sense the need for more power from the Spirit to experience this love?